

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Title II.D Grant Program

FY09 Project Summaries

In Missouri, the competitive Title II.D funds are used to expand the *enhancing Missouri's Instructional Networked Teaching Strategies* (eMINTS) program in districts across the state. The eMINTS program supports Missouri educators as they integrate multimedia technology into inquiry-based, student-centered, interdisciplinary, collaborative teaching practices that result in higher levels of student performance. eMINTS began as a demonstration project in 1997 and is now a large scale program involving more than 1,300 teachers in classrooms across Missouri. Extensive research has been conducted throughout the life of the program, available on the eMINTS website at <http://www.emints.org>.

The Title II.D eMINTS grant program awards two-year grants. Projects are funded for one year at a time. Year 1 grants are competitive. Year 2 funding is non-competitive and available if adequate progress is shown during Year 1. More information about the Title II.D program in Missouri can be found at <http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/federalfunded/TitleIID/index.htm>.

Following are summaries of the projects funded through the FY09 Title II.D Grant Program. The projects are divided into categories of Established and New. The **Established** category includes grants awarded to established eMINTS districts (defined as a district with at least one teacher who has completed at least one year of the two-year comprehensive eMINTS professional development and are expanding their program.) The **New** category includes districts new to the eMINTS program.

While each program is designed to meet the unique needs of the participating districts, teachers and students, project evaluation covers the following areas:

- Improved student achievement;
- Improved student technology literacy; and
- Enhanced teacher integration of technology and inquiry-based methodology implementation.

The following summaries detail 7 first-year grants and 8 second-year grants funded for the 2008-09 school year. Each project summary listed includes information about the project, including district name and contact person, grant award type, and number and grade levels of students served.

Year 1 Grants

073-099 East Newton R-VI

SCHOOLS INVOLVED		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER	
Granby and Triway Elementary Schools		Jean Kyle, Technology Director (417) 472-7128	
GRANT AWARD	GRANT PROGRAM	Curricular Focus	Participants
2008-09 \$235,943	New Year 1	Communication arts, mathematics, science, social studies, technology literacy	272 students and 12 teachers in grades 4-5
Project Description			
This district is implementing comprehensive eMINTS classrooms in all six 4 th grade classrooms, and eMINTS4All in 5 th grade math classes. While many special education students do not			

qualify for services in math, they all will receive an extra “boost” in math by being included in these classrooms. Teachers provide an extra “boost” to other staff members as they meet regularly to share ideas and implementations and use their eMINTS knowledge to offer classes in the district’s after-school program. eMINTS teachers, with help from a 21st Century After-School program grant, reach beyond the borders of 4th and 5th grade and affect multiple grade levels based on student selected courses offered after school.

014-129 Fulton 58

SCHOOLS INVOLVED Bartley Elementary School Busch Accelerated School McIntire Elementary School		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER Dan Hedgpath, Director of Technology (573) 642-7391	
GRANT AWARD 2008-09 \$379,000	GRANT PROGRAM Established Year 1	Curricular Focus Communication arts, mathematics	Participants 959 students and 61 teachers in grades K-5
Project Description Over the past seven years, the Fulton School District has implemented the eMINTS model program in several 3 rd , 4 th , and 5 th grade classrooms. District administrators recognized the benefits students receive in those classrooms, and how the teaching strategies and practices utilized by the teachers in these classrooms meet the goals of the district's strategic plan. By this full implementation for all students K-5, students are exposed to constructivist learning pedagogy. The district is adding a second eMINTS Instructional Specialist (eIS) to support ongoing training for the additional classrooms. The eIS will also reach out to grades K-2, not typically involved with eMINTS programming, to help the teachers adapt and implement the eMINTS instructional model into those grades.			

096-103 Hancock Place

SCHOOLS INVOLVED Hancock Place Middle School		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER Michelle Dirksen, District Technology Director (314) 544-6410	
GRANT AWARD 2008-09 \$389,725	GRANT PROGRAM New Year 1	Curricular Focus Communication arts, mathematics, science	Participants 426 students and 14 teachers in grades 6-8
Project Description Students and teachers at Hancock Place Middle School weathered the 1993 flood that devastated their community. In 1996, they moved into a new middle school facility that includes a computer lab, science lab, and band room along with the “usual” classrooms; however, recovering from the flood diverted resources for technology and professional development from the classrooms. This eMINTS project is giving teachers the resources to establish instructional practices that use cooperative learning structures, questioning strategies and inquiry-based teaching strategies in science, math, and communication arts. As stated by an appreciative teacher, “...our school has an 85% at-risk population...this program will benefit our students not only by exposing them to more technology, but empowering them to use the technology in their lives to better themselves and their families.”			

086-100 Putnam County R-I

SCHOOLS INVOLVED Putnam County Elementary School Putnam County Middle School Putnam County High School		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER Jeremy Watt, High School Principal (660) 947-3361	
GRANT AWARD 2008-09 \$84,064	GRANT PROGRAM Established Year 1	Curricular Focus Communication arts, science	Participants 532 students and 16 teachers in grades 4-12
Project Description			

While the district has been able to sustain its first implementation of eMINTS in 2001, a recent technology survey pointed out the lack of technology literacy amongst the students and teachers not in eMINTS classrooms. After examination of educational data pointed to several curricular areas that needed improvement, teachers and students across the district are using technology as they participate in collaborative learning projects and develop higher level thinking skills.

089-089 Richmond R-XVI

SCHOOLS INVOLVED		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER	
Sunrise Elementary School		Julie Stevenson, Curriculum Director (816) 776-6912	
GRANT AWARD	GRANT PROGRAM	Curricular Focus	Participants
2008-09 \$328,010	New Year 1	Communication arts, science, mathematics, social studies	277 students and 13 teachers in grades 4-5
Project Description <p>As administrators reviewed performance data and talked with teachers and the community, it became apparent the Richmond School District had both need and opportunity. The need, to raise AYP; the opportunity, a community that recognized the district needed more technology in the classrooms, and a building with experience in building-wide projects. Sunrise Elementary had implemented gender-specific class "switches" at the 5th grade level, looping in its 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade classrooms, and very recently began a professional learning community. While effective, these did not fully reach desired changes. The building's AYP progress was still lower than expected. The teachers at Sunrise Elementary accepted the challenge to implement the eMINTS program and work on raising student achievement. By implementing the eMINTS program for teachers in the building, staff is collaborating more and providing more beneficial instruction through the use of inquiry-based and constructivist methods.</p>			

066-105 School of the Osage R-II

SCHOOLS INVOLVED		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER	
School of the Osage Upper Elementary School		Dr. Mary Anne Graham, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction (573) 365-4091	
GRANT AWARD	GRANT PROGRAM	Curricular Focus	Participants
2008-09 \$341,696	Established Year 1	Communication arts, mathematics	425 students and 33 teachers in grades 3-5
Project Description <p>The district's previous implementation of eMINTS in several of the 3rd and 4th grade classrooms resulted in a noticeable gap in performance and technology skills for the students in the non-eMINTS classrooms. Also, school administrators identified wide differences in teaching styles based on the training the teachers had or had not received. Changes to the Upper Elementary building due to a number of retirements and building projects in the past two years provided an opportunity for the district to implement a school-wide eMINTS program in the Upper Elementary building. Staff members in the newly configured building are transforming classrooms into learning climates that encourage higher level thinking activities, utilizing new instructional strategies to benefit and engage all children within a grade level and help these students become life-long learners.</p>			

036-137 Sullivan

SCHOOLS INVOLVED Sullivan Middle School		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER Jana Thornsberry, Principal (573) 468-5191	
GRANT AWARD 2008-09 \$277,940	GRANT PROGRAM New Year 1	Curricular Focus Communication arts, mathematics, science, social studies	Participants 266 students and 16 teachers in grades 4-6
Project Description Educator David Warlick's profound words, "rethink, reinvent, and redefine" are the catalyst for the Sullivan Middle School's We "R" Ready project. Teachers, utilizing Warlick's three Rs are transforming their classrooms into constructivist learning centers. Targeting all 6 th grade classrooms for "reinvention" in all core and special subjects, teachers are building on their past successes with professional learning communities, vertical teaming and online lesson planning to work together and develop their eMINTS collaborative team.			

088-080 Westran R-I

SCHOOLS INVOLVED Westran Middle School		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER Kelly Shelby, Superintendent (660) 277-4429	
GRANT AWARD 2008-09 \$199,523	GRANT PROGRAM New Year 1	Curricular Focus Communication arts, mathematics	Participants 145 students and 5 teachers in grades 6-8
Project Description After reviewing core data, results of the 3 rd cycle MSIP review, and test scores in other areas of the curriculum, and identifying a lack of continuity in testing and curriculum from elementary to middle school to high school, administrators determined middle school students and teachers would benefit from an eMINTS implementation. Mentoring, coaching, and online learning options are helping teachers transition to the constructivist theory and, in turn, teachers are guiding and coaching students as they create unique products that show understanding of complex concepts. Building and district administration support the professional learning community by collaborative leadership practices. As Westran R-I teachers become more proficient in inquiry-based learning and technology, teachers are creating a bank of templates, WebQuests, lesson plans, online project ideas, and cross-curricular projects that are accessible to all district staff.			

Year 2 Grants**020-002 El Dorado Springs R-II**

SCHOOLS INVOLVED El Dorado Springs Elementary School El Dorado Springs Middle School El Dorado Springs High School		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER Barbara Walsh, Teacher of Gifted Education (417) 876-3112	
GRANT AWARD 2007-08 \$396,478 2008-09 \$147,667	GRANT PROGRAM New Year 2	Curricular Focus Communication arts, mathematics, science,	Participants 800 students and 18 teachers in grades 4-12
Project Description Several years ago, El Dorado Springs district administrators were faced with falling MAP scores in communication arts, math, and science. After attending the Technology Leadership Academy, they utilized the Taking a Good Look at Technology (TAGLIT) technology literacy survey and discovered a majority of the district's teachers did not feel proficient and/or did not			

use technology in their instruction. These data and the district's aging technology resources led the administrators to form study groups to align curriculum and work on several special projects, including integrating technology integration into the curriculum and teaching methods. Interested teachers from the district visited inquiry-based classrooms and made recommendations to develop an eMINTS project. Accepting the recommendations, the district is supporting the training for 18 communication arts and science teachers in grades 4-8 and a train-the-trainer candidate in year one of the grant and high school math teachers in year two.

066-102 Eldon R-I

SCHOOLS INVOLVED		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER	
Eldon Upper Elementary School		Denise Harwood, Principal (573) 392-6364	
GRANT AWARD	GRANT PROGRAM	Curricular Focus	Participants
2007-08 \$350,000 2008-09 \$148,819	New Year 2	Communication arts, mathematics	419 students and 28 teachers in grades 4-6
Project Description Teachers and students in grades 5 and 6 are forming learning communities to develop self-regulated learners. Teachers are integrating technology and the inquiry based learning model into the communication arts and mathematics curriculum to improve achievement and provide student-centered, inquiry-based instruction. The district's strategic plan has prepared staff with a foundation of collaboration and high expectations to support its "Whatever it Takes" philosophy.			

114-113 Hartville R-II

SCHOOLS INVOLVED		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER	
Hartville and Grovespring Elementary Schools Hartville High School		Dr. Sharon Hayden, Superintendent (417) 741-7676	
GRANT AWARD	GRANT PROGRAM	Curricular Focus	Participants
2007-08 \$381,262 2008-09 \$150,000	Established Year 2	Communication arts, mathematics, science, social studies	700 students and 37 teachers in grades K-12
Project Description This district previously implemented an eMINTS program in grades 3-6, communication arts, social studies, and math in grades 7-8, and saw improvement in all areas of student achievement, teacher instructional practices, and student involvement. This project is allowing the district to build upon those successes and expand the program to grades K-2, science in grades 7-8, core areas in grades 9-12, and special education classes. Administration is showing its support by participating in training sessions, as the district shifts its instructional focus from introduction and mastery of skills to an emphasis on student learning and results.			

005-128 Monett R-I

SCHOOLS INVOLVED		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER	
Monett Intermediate School Monett Middle School		Melody Paige, Technology Director (417) 235-0646	
GRANT AWARD	GRANT PROGRAM	Curricular Focus	Participants
2007-08 \$399,463 2008-09 \$150,000	Established Year 2	Communication arts	695 students and 13 teachers in grades 5-8
Project Description Through vertical articulation of the eMINTS model in the communication arts curriculum, teachers in grades 5-8 will build on their various trainings and strengths and work with over 700			

Monett students. The teachers will form a learning community to integrate technology and best teaching practices, and will share their information with teachers from other curricular areas. Students will use the technology skills they develop in communication arts classes in other curricular areas. Teachers of special education, ELL, the gifted/computer applications and the library media specialist are included in the project, thereby exposing all students' grades 5-8 to constructivist learning pedagogy. The anticipated outcome is that this methodology will carry over and, as students advance, inquiry-based learning and the appropriate use of technology tools will become second nature to them.

041-003 North Harrison R-III

SCHOOLS INVOLVED		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER	
North Harrison Elementary School North Harrison High School		Nancy J. Parman, Superintendent (660) 867-5222	
GRANT AWARD	GRANT PROGRAM	Curricular Focus	Participants
2007-08 \$393,686 2008-09 \$128,263	Established Year 2	Communication arts, mathematics, science, social studies, FACS, music, art, business, ag and PE	231 students and 30 teachers in grades K-12
Project Description <p>The entire faculty participates in this whole district eMINTS implementation. The project focuses on teacher collaboration and cross-curricular projects. All math and science teachers in grades 4-12 have designed Project Prairie as a multi-year, cross-curricular project, utilizing the Dunn Ranch, a local native prairie area managed by the Nature Conservancy. Teachers have 55 hours of collaboration time for cross-curricular projects and are partnering with students, parents, and other teachers to provide information about the goals and activities of their projects.</p>			

012-109 Poplar Bluff R-I

SCHOOLS INVOLVED		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER	
Oak Grove and O'Neal Elementary Schools Poplar Bluff Fifth and Sixth Grade Center Poplar Bluff Junior High School		Jim Thomas, Director of Media Services (573) 785-1021	
GRANT AWARD	GRANT PROGRAM	Curricular Focus	Participants
2007-08 \$382,182 2008-09 \$150,000	Established Year 2	Communication arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and reading	1,500 students and 25 teachers in grades 3-8
Project Description <p>This eMINTS project is creating an extensive learning community for students in grades 3-8 that targets socio-economically challenged students. With this implementation, the district vision of a learning coalition for students, teachers, parents, and principals will be present in all of the district buildings serving grades 3 through 8. The teachers are changing their instructional practices and building learning communities in order to improve student achievement. All core subject teachers emphasize learning through the constructivist theory and the use of essential questions to inspire thinking and creating connections that foster lifelong learning. Previous district eMINTS implementations have shown the eMINTS instructional model to increase student achievement and problem-solving skills, and have brought teachers together into a student-centered learning community.</p>			

095-059 Ste. Genevieve County R-II

SCHOOLS INVOLVED		CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER	
Ste. Genevieve Elementary School		Shelley C. Jokerst, Assistant Superintendent (573) 883-4500	
GRANT AWARD	GRANT PROGRAM	Curricular Focus	Participants

2007-08 \$327,929 2008-09 \$105,681	New Year 2	Communication arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and technology literacy	472 students and 41 teachers in grades K-5
<small>Project Description</small> <p>This eMINTS project is providing the structure and coordination for teachers in this rural elementary building. Needs assessments for the elementary school pointed out low MAP scores, problems with collaboration and a shared school vision, a weak use of technology by teachers, and a strong desire by students and their parents for more technology and more hands-on activities. The district made attempts to coordinate reform efforts, and staff developed a school portfolio. Administration gave teachers common grade level planning time to create action plans for improvement. These choices were effective, but did not bring about desired changes. By implementing the eMINTS professional development program for teachers in the building, the staff is collaborating more and providing more beneficial instruction through the use of inquiry-based and constructivist methods.</p>			

070-092 Wellsville-Middletown R-I

<small>SCHOOLS INVOLVED</small>		<small>CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE NUMBER</small>	
Wellsville-Middletown Elementary School Wellsville-Middletown High School		Bobbi Weekley, Technology Coordinator (573) 684-2428	
<small>GRANT AWARD</small>	<small>GRANT PROGRAM</small>	<small>Curricular Focus</small>	<small>Participants</small>
2007-08 \$399,907 2008-09 \$150,000	New Year 2	Communication arts, mathematics, science, and social studies	220 students and 16 teachers in grades 3-8
<small>Project Description</small> <p>Teachers in this district were given a “taste” of inquiry-based instructional practices through training in a shared computer lab setting and, hungry for more, developed a team to investigate how they could implement these practices in their daily classroom routine. This resulting project has spread an enthusiasm for inquiry-based instruction throughout the district, including special education, K-2, and high school students. District administration has responded by providing support for an educational technology specialist, along with training administrators in appropriate evaluations and requirements for instructors that fit with the new methods being taught in professional development sessions. The administration is also financially supporting the project by providing extra technology and training for activities outside the scope of the grant project.</p>			